

**Minutes from a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life  
Held on November 30, 2012  
SGW H-762, 10am**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Andrew Woodall (Chair), Ms. Lauren Broad (Secretary), Ms. Claudie Boujaklian, Dr. Stephane Brutus, Mr. Jeansil Bruyère, Mr. Jean Crevier (representing Mr. Jacques Lachance), Mr. Sharon Fraenkel, Mr. Veryan Goodship, Ms. Hannah Hackney, Mr. Daniel Houde, Mr. Paul Jerajian, Mr. Howard Magonet, Ms. Nadine Montour, Mr. Sean Nolan, Ms. Irene Petsopoulos, Ms. Tanya Poletti (representing Mr. Bradley Tucker), Ms. Emily Sheepy, Dr. Cameron Skinner, Ms. Jenessa Speed (representing Ms. Katherine Hedrich), Ms. Brigitte St-Laurent, Ms. Alexis Suzuki, Ms. Olivia Taddio, Mr. David Thirlwall (representing Mr. Gerald Beasley), Ms. Lorraine Toscano.

**ABSENT WITH REGRETS:** Ms. Melanie Drew, Ms. Sharon Hunter, Mr. Andrew Roberts, Ms. Stephanie Sarik.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Kavian Abhari, Ms. Marie-Josée Allard, Ms. Katie Sheahan.

### **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Chair called the meeting to order. Mr. Goodship moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Jerajian seconded the motion.

*The motion passed unanimously.*

### **2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the last CCSL of 2012. Three new undergraduate representatives were introduced: Mr. Jeansil Bruyère, Mr. Sean Nolan and Ms. Olivia Taddio. Mr. Woodall reminded the Council that non-voting members were welcomed to speak at meetings and were encouraged to participate if they wished. The Chair noted that the Holidays Around the World event, organized by Ms. Laura Gallo and Ms. Helen Downie from Multi-faith Chaplaincy, was held in the Loyola Chapel on November 27, 2012 and was a great success. Ms. Taddio added that ASFA would be hosting the event "Movember" that night at the Loyola campus, to raise funds for men's health. It was noted that this was a project that received funding from the CCSL Special Projects Fund. Mr. Thirlwall informed the Council that the library would be putting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Christmas Auction on December 7, 2012 at noon in the De Seve Cinema.

### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 2, 2012**

Mr. Goodship moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of November 2, 2012 and Mr. Jerajian seconded the motion.

*The motion passed unanimously.*

### **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

#### **4.1 Update on Ad-Hoc Committee to Review CCSL Mandate**

The Chair reported that the representatives for the ad-hoc committee to review the CCSL mandate were confirmed and a meeting would soon be arranged to review whether or not the mandate should be updated in light of how student life has changed over the past years. The goal would be to have the CCSL involved in student life issues beyond funding and to broaden discussion.

#### **4.2 Consideration of HOJO Request for Increase to Annual Funding**

Mr. Woodall reminded the Council that \$15,000 was earmarked annually from the CCSL Special Projects Fund to support the CSU Off Campus Housing and Job Bank (HOJO). At the CCSL meeting of November 2, 2012, Ms. Leanne Ashworth, Coordinator of HOJO, had made a presentation and requested an additional \$5,000 in funding annually. The Council felt that due to time constraints, they were unable to properly consider the request, therefore the question was tabled for the current meeting.

Mr. Magonet recalled that a major concern held by the Council was that Concordia graduate students did not currently have access to HOJO services, and it was unclear whether or not additional funding would solve this problem. Mr. Woodall was aware that the CSU and GSA were working together to see if a fee levy for graduate students would be feasible to permit them to have access to the services, however nothing was certain and there could still be technological hurdles to overcome as well. It was confirmed that the additional funding would be used to hire more staff, to allow HOJO to keep the office operational for more hours. Mr. Bruyère informed the Council that there were currently no HOJO services being offered at the Loyola campus because they do not have the resources to do so, despite there being a very real demand. Ms. Hackney wished to bring it to the Council's attention that the CCSL Special Projects Guidelines do not allow for funding of salaries. The Chair replied that the Council might decide to make an exception to this restriction, considering that HOJO already has a unique relationship with the CCSL in that they receive funding annually from the fund. Mr. Magonet questioned whether the shortfall in staff could be improved by using volunteers, perhaps by forming a partnership with the LIVE Centre. Ms. Taddio explained that because the paid staff positions are unionized, their hours could not legally be given to volunteers. It was decided that Ms. Ashworth would need to verify this question.

Ms. St-Laurent put forth the following motion, seconded by Dr. Skinner:

*Be it resolved that the Council suspend making its decision on funding an additional \$5,000 to HOJO annually until Ms. Ashworth can return to the CCSL meeting on January 25, 2013 to respond to the following questions:*

1. *Will additional funding of \$5,000 annually from CCSL allow Concordia graduate students to have better access to the services provided by HOJO, such as access to its database?*
2. *Will an increase in access to HOJO's services for graduate students be dependent on passing a fee-levy? And what contingencies exist if the fee-levy does not pass?*
3. *Will additional funding of \$5,000 annually from CCSL allow HOJO to increase their services at the Loyola campus?*
4. *Has HOJO considered using volunteers instead of paid employees to meet their staffing needs? Is this a possibility? What implications would this have (or not) on any collective agreements?*
5. *In light of the current housing issues facing international students, how would an increase in funding from CCSL help to ease this kind of problem?*

*The motion passed unanimously.*

#### **4.3 Review of "ASFA Talks" Application for Special Projects Funding**

The Chair began the discussion by reminding any student Council members belonging to ASFA that they were more than welcome to participate in the discussion, however should abstain from voting due to a conflict of interest. The Chair recalled that there were many questions regarding the "ASFA Talks" budget following their presentation to the Council at the November 2, 2012 meeting. ASFA was asked to resubmit a clearer budget, which was then distributed to the Council prior to the meeting. It was noted that the updated budget had a new requested amount of \$14,300. The budget was still unclear, however the applicant was contacted several times by the Dean of Students Office in order to get a balanced budget, and this was the final version that was provided.

A discussion ensued and a main concern that was raised was the expense of a \$5,000 donation associated with the one of the guest speakers. The Council did not feel comfortable supporting this expense, and it was decided that should any funding be approved, it would be made clear that it could not be used for the donation. The Chair informed the Council that should it decide to do so, it could make distinct parameters for what the approved funding could be used for.

Several issues were raised, such as the estimated cost for security, which seemed to be very high considering the nature of the event, as well as other confirmed sources of funding and external sponsorship. Mr. Fraenkel reported that the CSU had approached Advancement & Alumni Relations for advice on securing sponsorship for their activities, notably one of the same speakers, and he wondered if this was indeed for the same event. Mr. Goodship confirmed that it was in fact for the "ASFA Talks" speaker, and that the CSU was working with ASFA to help them finance the event. Mr. Fraenkel said that although Advancement & Alumni Relations were



currently only involved on a consultation basis, he could perhaps start the process of seeing if this was a project the office would be interested in supporting. The Council agreed that either way, their decision should not be based on whether or not other departments at the university were going to provide funding. Another concern was that the anticipated venue, H-110, may not be available for the proposed date in March, considering there were major renovations being planned for the spring. It was decided that Ms. Broad would bring this to ASFA's attention to be sure they had secured the venue.

Dr. Brutus asked how much money remained in the fund, suggesting that perhaps this would help guide the Council's decision. Ms. Broad confirmed that approximately \$73,500 remained in the fund for the rest of the 2012-2013 year. It was proposed that the amount to consider be pro-rated to exclude the \$5,000 donation. Dr. Brutus suggested the Council consider funding this project for an amount that would be in line with similar projects already approved. Ms. Toscano recalled that the Council had yet to approve an increase of \$5,000 in annual funding to HOJO, a service that would positively affect many more students than the "ASFA Talks" project, which was requesting significantly more. Ms. Poletti recommended that the Council approve \$3,500 to cover the food, not including alcohol, the security and the venue rental. Mr. Magonet added that perhaps a conditional amount could be offered in the winter semester, dependent upon an updated budget showing confirmed expenses and other sources of funding.

Ms. St-Laurent put forth the following motion, seconded by Ms. Poletti:

*Be it resolved that the project "ASFA Talks" be approved for CCSL Special Projects funding up to \$3,500 for the following expenses: food (no alcohol), security and venue rental. A conditional amount of up to \$1,000 will be earmarked for the project in the winter 2013 semester, based on the following: that ASFA provide an updated budget showing all confirmed sources of funding, as well as a confirmation of all expenses. If ASFA can still demonstrate a shortfall in the budget, the Council will make the additional \$1,000 available.*

For: 13

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

*The motion was passed.*

#### **4.4 Discussion of Special Projects Funding for CUTV**

The Chair recalled that CUTV had presented the project "CUTV Live Arts & Culture Show" at the November 2, 2012 CCSL meeting and had been approved for \$1,000 in the fall 2012 semester, plus an additional \$1,500 to be dispersed in the winter 2013 semester. The Chair reported that CUTV was undergoing much internal turmoil and currently had no governing body capable of overseeing its operations. Given these new developments, the Council wished to reconsider the approved funding. The Chair added that there was very little programming underway at CUTV given the situation and that they were currently attempting to establish an interim governance structure to update their constitution.

Following a discussion on possible solutions, the Council agreed that funding should be revoked for the project in light of the uncertainty of CUTV's future, however they recognized the value of the project should CUTV be able to resolve its internal struggles.

Dr. Skinner put forth the following motion, seconded by Mr. Bruyère:

*Be it resolved that the CCSL Special Projects funding for the "CUTV Live Arts & Culture Show" approved at the November 2, 2012 CCSL meeting be cancelled due to the current internal instability at CUTV. The Council will request that CUTV re-apply for funding at the February 8, 2013 deadline, with a new application that must adhere to all the current requirements of the CCSL Special Projects Fund. It must also include a letter from the CUTV Board, clearly stating that CUTV is able to properly deliver, financially and programmatically, on the objectives outlined in its proposal and that they are fully in support of the "CUTV Live Arts & Culture Show". The Council will then reconsider the application for funding.*

*The motion passed unanimously.*

## **5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

There were no reports or items of information.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Thirlwall reported that there were announcements forthcoming on the renovations in the university library. The detailed plans for the continuation of the renovations were currently with the Presidents Office waiting for approval. The announcements were expected to come in January 2013.

Ms. Suzuki wished to add to the conversation regarding the request for an increase to the annual funding for HOJO, saying that she was aware that their staff had been under increased strain given the current housing issues surrounding Chinese students at Concordia. Ms. Suzuki requested that HOJO be asked how they are managing the situation. The Chair agreed that this would be added to the list of questions for Ms. Ashworth to respond to at the next CCSL meeting.

## **7. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2013 in S-H-769 at 10am.

## **8. TERMINATION OF MEETING**

Mr. Jerajian motioned to terminate the meeting. Mr. Goodship seconded the motion.

*The motion passed unanimously.*